

HA-1282

Webster-Cassilly House  
Cavalry Road  
Bel Air, Maryland 21014

The Webster-Cassilly house was built in 1886 by George S. Webster on a 131-acre farm that had previously belonged to his uncle, also named George S. Webster. The wing on the east may belong to the earlier George Webster's house--he lived on this farm until his death in 1847.

The side hall plan and German siding are somewhat unusual for this rural and rather insulated area, where people generally preferred the old standby - clapboards and at least the illusion of a central hall plan. (Houses with central entrances, however, sometimes contained just two rooms on the first floor with a central staircase against the inside wall of the larger room.)

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Webster-Cassilly house

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Northeast of intersection of Snake Lane and Cavalry Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Churchville,

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland 21028

COUNTY  
Harford**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Joseph &amp; Sarah Cassilly

Telephone #: 734-6042

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Cavalry Rd.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code  
Maryland 21014**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Harford County Courthouse

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

40 S. Main St.

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE  
Maryland 21014**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This early to-mid-19th century, gable-roofed frame house consists of four parts, which may or may not have been constructed at separate times. The two-story house covered in shiplap and set on a stone foundation is block-shaped and faces south. The main or south section is three bays wide and one room deep; the north part consists of a one bay by one bay portion with a central brick chimney with a molded cap and a one bay wide extension on the east that fills in the el. Adjoining the latter is a one-story wing with a large plain brick chimney in the east corner of the north flank of the gable roof. Except for the windows in this wing which have replaced sash, windows have 6/6 sash and louvered shutters. Gable windows have four lights. Corners of the house are decorated with pilasters.

On the south or principal facade, the door is in the east bay and flanked by two windows on the west. Windows in the second story are aligned with the openings in the first story. The entrance door has four panels and a two light transom. The porch, with a cyma recta cornice and square posts, appears to have been lowered.

The east end is blank except for four-light windows in the gable and first story.

The west end has one window in each story.

The north section-slightly indented from the south section-has one window in each story of the western flank and a door in the first story and window in the second story of the north end. These are flanked on the east by one window in each story of the eastern extension. The east side of the latter has two windows in the second story.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This house may be the "comfortable" house built in 1886 by George S. Webster on a 131 acre farm that had previously belonged to his uncle, George S. Webster.

Described in his biography as "well-to-do and not obliged to work unless he so desires", George S. Webster, born November 27, 1825, was the son of Henry Webster. He attended the academy at Churchville, which was built by his father and Mr. Finney. He then attended school in Kent County and eventually purchased two farms in Harford County. He sold one in 1865 and lived in Bel Air with his brother, Col. Edwin Webster, for 17 years after his father's death in 1872.

The present house may contain-or be on the site of-an earlier house, listed in or near this location on the 1858 Jennings & Herrick Map as belonging to G.S. Webster. George S. Webster purchased 131 acres of "Stony Ridge" for \$650 in 1816.<sup>1</sup> The parcel was valued at \$1000 in 1847 when he died, leaving his property to the daughters of his mother, Henry Webster.<sup>2</sup> His inventory reveals that he had a 150-acre farm (in two separate tracts) and a frame dwelling house in fair condition, a small barn, a hen house, and a shed, all together valued at \$2100.

His nephew, George S. Webster then purchased the 131-acre farm in 1859.<sup>3</sup>

## Footnotes

<sup>1</sup> HDZ /296

<sup>2</sup> Will Records  
TSB 6/157

<sup>3</sup> WG 11/56

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

Land & Will Records of Harford County  
 1858 Jennings & Herrick Map  
 1878 Martenet's Map  
Portrait & Biographical Record of Harford & Cecil Counties, N.Y. 1897

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Natalie Shivers, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Harford County Historic District Commission

DATE

June, 1979

STREET & NUMBER

45 S. Main St.

TELEPHONE

301-879-2000 Ext. 207

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air,

STATE

Maryland 21014

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

## TITLE SEARCH

HA- 1282

## Cassilly House

	1074/21	September 7, 1978	Grantor: Juanita R. Zurwelle (formerly Wolfe) Grantee: Joseph I. & Sarah D. Cassilly Sum: \$176,000. Acreage: 2 parcels: including 49.74 Acres on Southeast side of Cavalry Rd.
	811/59	April 28, 1969	Grantor: Clarence Gorrell, widower Grantee: Peter Franklin & Juanita R. Wolfe Acreage: 49.74 Acres
	743/272	May 4, 1967	Grantor: Zero, Inc. Grantee: Clarence M. & Rebecca S. Gorrell Acreage: 49.84 Acres
JAR	160/33	April 17, 1918	Grantor: George B. & Laura A. Felty Grantee: Clarence M. & Herbert M. Gorrell Acreage: 114 Acres, 2 Rds, 25 square perches
JAR	150/227	November 8, 1915	Grantor: P. Henderson & Mary R. McCormick W. Worthington Hopkins Grantee: George B. & Laura A. Felty Acreage: 114 Acres, 2 Roods, 25 square perches
JAR	147/259	April 5, 1915	Grantor: Dorothea Magness Grantee: P. Henderson McCormick, Gaylord J. Stone, Worthington Hopkins Acreage: 114 Acres, 2 Roods, 25 square perches
JAR	134/489	February 24, 1912	Grantor: Jacob A. Doxen- Grantee: Charles H. & Mary C. Magness Acreage: 114 Acres, 2 Roods, 25 square perches
WSF	108/335	January 4, 1904	Grantor: Charles &. & Mary C. Magness Grantee: John W. Anderson Jr. Sum: \$3000 Acreage: 131 Acres
WSF	108/176	January 26, 1903	Grantor: J. Edwin and Edwin H. Webster, Trust. Grantee: Charles H. Magness Sum: \$3000 (See Equity Docket P, Folio 93) Acreage: 131 Acres: "Stony Ridge"
WG	11/56	February 12, 1859	Grantor: M.E. Webster, M.A. Webster, P.J. Webster, and S.F. Webster Grantee: George S. Webster Sum: \$1000 Acreage: 131 Acres: "Stony Ridge"

TITLE SEARCH

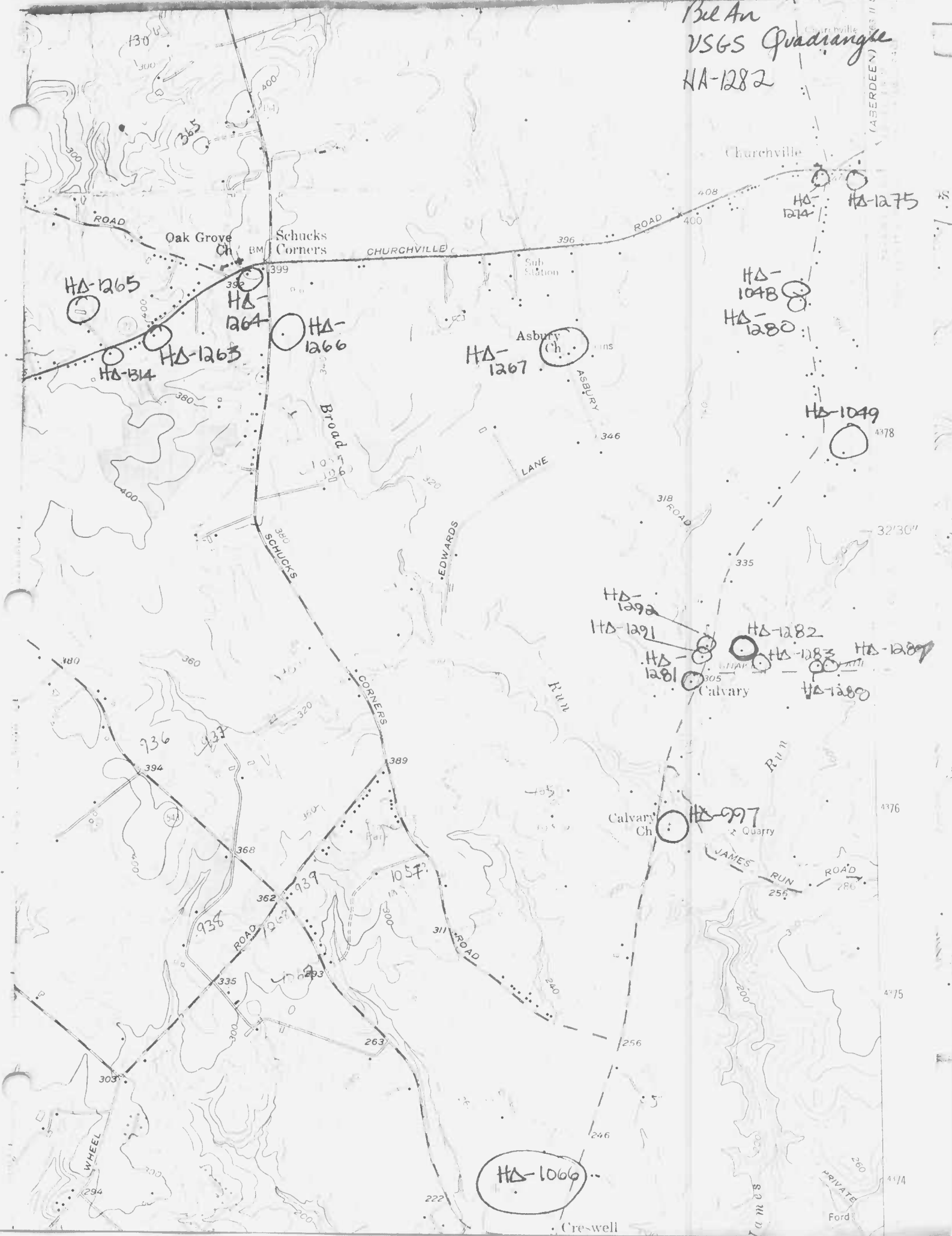
HA- 1282

Cassilly House - (Cont'd.)

Will Records TSB 6/157	1847	Devisor: George S. Webster
		Devisee: Neices: Maria Elizabeth Webster, Martha Ann Webster, Phebe Smith and Sarah Frances Webster
		Acreage: 131 Acres of "Stony Ridge" on road from Churchville to Bush Town, valued at \$1000.
HD Ind 7/296	May 21, 1816	Mortgagor: Thomas Dennison of Balto. County
		Mortgagee: George Webster of Harford County
		Sum: \$650
		Acreage: 131 Acres: "Stony Ridge"

Bel Air  
VSGS Quadrangle  
HA-1282

(ASBERDEEN) 11 S







Webster-Cassilly house  
Churchville, Md. 21028  
Natalie Shivers  
July, 1979  
Southeast

HA- 1282



Webster-Cassilly house  
Churchville, Md. 21028  
Natalie Shivers  
July, 1979  
northwest

HA- 1282